

A Shared Framework for Smarter Buildings

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Part of REDI: The Digital Manifesto



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Plan a building's digital foundation as carefully as its physical one

Lasse Henrichsen, CTO of Veni, presented a framework for digital infrastructure developed as part of the REDI process, arguing that a building's digital foundation is strategic infrastructure. The framework has six layers that must be designed and governed as one: physical, logical, integration, data, services and security. He focused on the first two. For the physical layer, his tips were to install plenty of fiber, question whether each desk needs two ethernet ports, plan for flexibility because tenants will not stay forever, and reuse designs across assets. For the logical layer, he recommended just one technical network for the building, left to IT experts, with each vendor's system on its own logical network and an RI-IT in every project. The ambition: a digital foundation that is owner-controlled, secure by design and open enough to evolve.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Six layers, from physical cabling to security, must be designed and governed as one.
- Installing more cable pairs during construction costs little, while adding them later costs time and money.
- Install just one technical network for the building, owned by the owner and run with IT experts.
- Give each vendor system its own logical network and separate remote access vendor by vendor.
- Use an RI-IT in all projects so technical equipment is configured and tested along the way.